ABSTRACT

An MFP, e.g. a printer or a scanner, allows a PC on the Internet to easily acquire MIB information from the MFP. An MFP and a PC are connected via the Internet through a firewall. When the MFP accesses the PC by using HTTP to thereby open a firewall, the PC transmits an OID request command to the MFP as tag information in XML. On the basis of the received OID request command, the MFP extracts equipment information (e.g. counter information) corresponding to the tag information from MIB indicating the equipment status of the MFP, prepares OID by describing the equipment information in XML, and transmits the OID to the PC. Thus, the PC can acquire equipment information (e.g. counter information) concerning the MFP on the basis of the received OID.